

1 AN ACT relating to medical transports and admissions.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 210.300 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall *promulgate*
 5 *administrative*~~[prescribe from time to time, by]~~ regulations *no later than October*
 6 *1, 2022, in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A establishing*~~[, for the designation~~
 7 ~~of]~~ hospital districts, for the purpose of determining to which of the state
 8 institutions *or contracted hospitals* for the mentally ill the persons admitted from
 9 each county shall initially be sent.

10 (2) In establishing the hospital districts under subsection (1) of this section, the
 11 secretary shall consider the:

12 (a) Distance and travel time from each county to a state institution or
 13 contracted hospital for the mentally ill;

14 (b) Need to transport the individual to a hospital or psychiatric facility to secure
 15 an evaluation or for admission without unnecessary delay as required under
 16 KRS Chapters 202A, 202B, and 202C; and

17 (c) Population of the hospital districts based upon the most recent federal
 18 decennial census.

19 (3) The secretary shall also establish and maintain a list of local hospitals containing
 20 a psychiatric unit or crisis stabilization unit approved by the cabinet to which
 21 individuals may be transported and admitted as an alternative to a state
 22 institution or contracted hospital for the mentally ill when clinically appropriate
 23 due to circumstances that include but are not limited to:

24 (a) The ability or inability of the designated state institution or contracted
 25 hospital to accept the individual to be transported or evaluated without
 26 delay due to capacity limitations, lack of staffing, or other impediment; or

27 (b) The need for immediate and emergent treatment or evaluation arising from

1 but not limited to the threat or reasonable fear of physical harm to the
2 individual or any employee or agent of the transporting agency or service.

3 Only those hospitals that have filed a written notice with the cabinet of the
4 hospital's willingness to accept patients under this subsection may accept
5 admissions.

6 (4) The secretary shall review the hospital districts on an annual basis to ensure
7 transports and evaluations occur without unnecessary delay as required under
8 this section and KRS Chapters 202A, 202B, and 202C, and shall provide a report
9 to the Interim Joint Committee on Health, Welfare, and Family Services and the
10 Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary on or before October 1, 2022, and on or
11 before October 1 of each year thereafter. The report shall, at a minimum,
12 include:

13 (a) Any changes made to any hospital district and the reason for the change;

14 (b) The name and location of state institutions accepting patients for admission
15 under KRS Chapters 202A, 202B, and 202C, including the counties the
16 state institution serves; and

17 (c) The name and locations of any contracted hospital accepting patients for
18 admission under KRS Chapters 202A, 202B, and 202C, including the
19 counties the contracted hospital serves.